APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/615,812	07/13/2000	Charles C. Raney	25520-B	5041

23589   7590   12/31/2007
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EXAMINER
DEXTER, CLARK F ·

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3724	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
12/31/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

		Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary		09/615,812	RANEY ET AL.
		Examiner	Art Unit
		Clark F. Dexter	3724

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>24 September 2007</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>50-54</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☒ Claim(s) <u>50-54</u> is/are allowed.

6)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

        1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

        3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

QUAYLE ACTION

1.   The amendment filed on September 24, 2007 has been entered. Upon further

consideration, additional informalities have been discovered. These informalities are

cited below along with suggestions to obviate them.

Applicant is welcome to contact the Examiner to accept the suggested changes

by Examiner's amendment.

Claim Objections

2.   Claims 50-54 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In general, the claims lack sufficient clarity and the following changes are

suggested:

Claims 50-54 should be rewritten as follows:

--   50.   (Previously Presented) A method of processing segments of a continuous

flexible web wherein a <u>length</u> ~~stretch~~ of the web is incrementally advanced under

tension to successively feed at least one segment of the web to a web processing

station having processing components, said method comprising:

intermittently releasing tension on the <u>length</u> ~~stretch~~ of the web while said at least

one segment thereof is at the processing station;

holding each <u>said</u> successive segment of the <u>length</u> ~~stretch~~ of the web <u>using a</u>

<u>holder</u> while the segment is positioned at the web processing station;

using the holder to continue ~~continuing~~ to hold the held segment of web at the

processing station while allowing the held segment to move relative to adjacent portions

of the web due to said released tension on the length of the web, the holder holding said

held segment being moveable in an X axis direction of feed of the length ~~stretch~~ of the

web to the processing station, in a Y axis direction transverse of the X axis direction ~~of~~

~~feed of said stretch of the web~~, and about a Θ axis of rotation of the holder

perpendicular to said X and Y axis directions;

accurately adjusting the position of the held segment of the web at said

processing station prior to processing thereof by subjecting the holder holding said held

segment to controlled adjustment motion selected from the group consisting of motion

along said X axis, motion along said Y axis, motion in the form of rotation about said Θ

axis, and simultaneous combinations of said [[such]] motions as required to obtain

accurate alignment of the held segment of the web with the processing components at

said processing station; and

processing each held segment within the station after said accurate adjustment

thereof.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein the processing

components include die cutting elements, and wherein said processing step includes

subjecting the held segment of the web at said processing station to die cutting after

said accurate adjustment of the position of the held segment of the web such that said

held segment is aligned with the die cutting elements.

52. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, further comprising:

~~wherein~~ providing a shiftable vacuum plate <u>as the holder, the vacuum plate</u>

positioned to hold said ~~held~~ the segment of the web at the web processing station;

sequentially applying vacuum to the plate to successively hold <u>each</u> said

<u>successive</u> [[held]] segment of the web; and

adjusting the position of the plate while holding said held segment of the web to

effect said accurate adjustment of the said held segment at said processing station.

53. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, wherein said accurately

adjusting the position of the held segment of the web at said processing station includes

comparing the location of a fixed reference indicium within said station with the location

of an indicium carried by said held segment.

54. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, further comprising:

feeding the <u>length</u> ~~stretch~~ of the web in said X direction while maintaining <u>said</u>

tension on said <u>length</u> ~~stretch~~; and

relaxing the tension on said <u>length</u> ~~stretch~~ while said held segment of the web is

held at said processing station and during <u>said</u> accurate adjustment of the position of

the held segment of the web at said processing station.--.

Specification

3.   The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

On page 1, the first paragraph filed in the preliminary amendment on July 13, 2000

should be rewritten as follows:

--

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a division of application Serial No. 08/948,011, filed October 9,

1997, now abandoned, which is a continuation of application Serial No. 08/825,368,

filed March 28, 1997, now abandoned.--.

Page 4,   line 24, "way" should be changed to --away--;

                     line 31, "cooper able" should be changed to --cooperable--;

                     line 32, "fig. 4" should be changed to --Fig. 4--;

                     line 34, "in" should be deleted.

Page 5,   line 3, "th" should be changed to --the--;

                     line 33, --web-- should be inserted before "segments 38";

                     line 35, "segments" should be changed to --web segment--.

In the Abstract

The abstract should be replaced with the following:

--   Web processing method and apparatus (30, 300) is provided for high speed,

extremely accurate die cutting or lamination operations. Processing station (32, 300)

includes a vacuum hold down plate (32, 308) which receives and holds an image

bearing incremental segment of the web. In feed and out feed tension on the web is released while a segment of the web is held by the hold down plate. The hold down plate with a segment of the web thereon is selectively shifted about X, Y and Θ axes as required to bring the image on the web segment into alignment with a web processing component at the processing station.--.

Conclusion

4.   This application is in condition for allowance except for the formal matters described above. Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213, (Comm'r Pat. 1935).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

5.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clark F. Dexter whose telephone number is (571)272-4505. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer D. Ashley can be reached on (571)272-4502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Clark F. Dexter
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3724

cfd
December 26, 2007